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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/943,904	08/30/2001	Vincent J. Zimmer	42390P11190	2083

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EXAMINER	
MANOSKEY, JOSEPH D	

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2113	

DATE MAILED: 04/13/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	09/943,904	ZIMMER ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Joseph D. Manoskey	2113	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on *23 January 2006*.

2a)☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b)☐ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) *1-27* is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) *1-27* is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☒ The drawing(s) filed on *30 August 2001* is/are: a)☒ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a)☐ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ .
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

> A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –
>
> (b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

2. Claim 1-27 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Christeson et al., U.S. Patent 5,579,522, hereinafter referred to as "Christeson".

3. Referring to claim 1, Christeson teaches a method of dynamically updating BIOS firmware parts that includes both normal BIOS and recovery BIOS and using an additional BIOS region to extend the system BIOS memory area, this is interpreted as adding a new initiation module to a BIOS firmware of a computing system having an extensible firmware architecture, the BIOS firmware having a plurality of initiation modules including recovery initiation modules for recovery of the computing system and non-recovery modules (See Col. 1, lines 25-45 and Col. 2, lines 15-57). Christeson also teaches the verification of the flash memory area which includes the BIOS, this is interpreted as automatically evaluating new initiation module (See Col. 3, lines 26-35 and Col. 4, lines 49-51). Christeson also discloses storing BIOS instructions in the flash memory. The BIOS includes both a normal BIOS in one memory block and recovery

BIOS in another area of the flash memory, or the "designated" recovery area of the flash memory. Finally, Christeson teaches updating the BIOS including the recovery portion. This is interpreted as designating the new initiation module as a recovery initiation module if the new initiation is required for the recovery of the computing system (See Col. 2, lines 41-57).

4. Referring to claim 2, Christeson discloses have a block containing all the recovery BIOS, and all parts of the BIOS in the recovery block are part of the recovery BIOS, this is interpreted as designating the new initiation module as a recovery initiation module if another recovery initiation depends upon the new initiation module (See Col. 2, lines 52-57).

5. Referring to claim 3, Christeson teaches a recovery mode that executes the recovery BIOS, this is interpreted as executing only recovery initiation modules in an event of a recovery restart (See Col. 3, lines 16-25).

6. Referring to claim 4, Christeson discloses updating the BIOS, this interpreted as an updated recovery initiation module added to the BIOS firmware to replace an outdated recovery initiation module (See Col. 2, lines 15-20).

7. Referring to claim 5, Christeson teaches the verification of the flash memory area, this is interpreted as automatically evaluating at least one of the recovery initiation

modules (See Col. 3, lines 26-35). Christeson discloses updating the BIOS including recovery BIOS, this interpreted as removing the recovery initiation module designation from at least one of the recovery initiation modules if the designation is solely due to dependence thereon by the outdated recovery initiation module (See Col. 2, lines 15-20 and lines 52-57).

8. Referring to claim 6, Christeson teaches locking the recovery BIOS, this is interpreted as wherein the recovery initiation modules are rendered unalterable (See Col. 2, liens 52-54).

9. Referring to claim 7, Christeson discloses the recovery BIOS being located in non-volatile memory, this is interpreted as the initiation module reside in a fault-tolerant firmware block (See Col. 2, lines 15-20).

10. Referring to claim 8, Christeson teaches a block of code reference numbers "202", "203", "204" and "205" that add up to 64KB and contains the recovery BIOS, this is interpreted as the recovery initiation modules contained in a 64 kilobyte block of code (See Fig. 2).

11. Referring to claim 9, Christeson discloses the recovery being used because of a corruption from power failure or other reasons, this is interpreted as recovery of the

computing system is necessitated by an event selected from the group consisting of power failure, hardware failure, and security error (See Col. 3, lines 1-4).

12. Referring to claim 10, Christeson teaches a computer readable medium containing instructions when executed on processor performs a method of dynamically updating BIOS firmware parts that includes both normal BIOS and recovery BIOS and using an additional BIOS region to extend the system BIOS memory area, this is interpreted as adding a new initiation module to a BIOS firmware of a computing system having an extensible firmware architecture, the BIOS firmware having a plurality of initiation modules including recovery initiation modules for recovery of the computing system and non-recovery modules (See Col. 1, lines 25-45 and Col. 2, lines 15-57). Christeson also teaches the verification of the flash memory area which includes the BIOS, this is interpreted as automatically evaluating the new initiation module (See Col. 3, lines 26-35 and Col. 4, lines 49-51). Christeson also discloses storing BIOS instructions in the flash memory. The BIOS includes both a normal BIOS in one memory block and recovery BIOS in another area of the flash memory, or the "designated" recovery area of the flash memory. Finally, Christeson teaches updating the BIOS including the recovery portion. This is interpreted as designating the new initiation module as a recovery initiation module if the new initiation is required for the recovery of the computing system (See Col. 2, lines 41-57).

13. Referring to claim 11, Christeson discloses have a block containing all the recovery BIOS, and all parts of the BIOS in the recovery block are part of the recovery BIOS, this is interpreted as designating the new initiation module as a recovery initiation module if another recovery initiation module depends upon the new initiation module (See Col. 2, lines 52-57).

14. Referring to claim 12, Christeson teaches a recovery mode that executes the recovery BIOS, this is interpreted as executing only recovery initiation modules in an event of a recovery restart (See Col. 3, lines 16-25).

15. Referring to claim 13, Christeson discloses updating the BIOS, this interpreted as an updated recovery initiation module added to the BIOS firmware to replace an outdated recovery initiation module (See Col. 2, lines 15-20).

16. Referring to claim 14, Christeson teaches the verification of the flash memory area, this is interpreted as automatically evaluating at least one of the recovery initiation modules (See Col. 3, lines 26-35). Christeson discloses updating the BIOS including recovery BIOS, this interpreted as removing recovery initiation module designation from a least one of the recovery initiation modules if the designation is solely due to dependence thereon by the outdated recovery initiation module (See Col. 2, lines 15-20 and lines 52-57).

17. Referring to claim 15, Christeson teaches locking the recovery BIOS, this is interpreted as wherein the recovery initiation modules are rendered unalterable (See Col. 2, liens 52-54).

18. Referring to claim 16, Christeson discloses the recovery BIOS being located in non-volatile memory, this is interpreted as the initiation module reside in a fault-tolerant firmware block (See Col. 2, lines 15-20).

19. Referring to claim 17, Christeson teaches a block of code reference numbers "202", "203", "204" and "205" that add up to 64KB and contains the recovery BIOS, this is interpreted as the recovery initiation modules contained in a 64 kilobyte block of code (See Fig. 2).

20. Referring to claim 18, Christeson discloses the recovery being used because of a corruption from power failure or other reasons, this is interpreted as the recovery of the computing system is necessitated by an event selected from the group consisting of power failure, hardware failure, and security error (See Col. 3, lines 1-4).

21. Referring to claim 19, Christeson teaches a apparatus for dynamically updating BIOS firmware parts that includes both normal BIOS and recovery BIOS and using an additional BIOS region to extend the system BIOS memory area, this is interpreted as adding an initiation module to a BIOS firmware of a computing system having an

extensible firmware architecture, the BIOS firmware having a plurality of initiation modules including recovery initiation modules for recovering of the computing system and non-recovery modules (See Col. 1, lines 25-45 and Col. 2, lines 15-57). Christeson also teaches the verification of the flash memory area which includes the BIOS, this is interpreted as automatically evaluating a new initiation module (See Col. 3, lines 26-35 and Col. 4, lines 49-51). Christeson also discloses storing BIOS instructions in the flash memory. The BIOS includes both a normal BIOS in one memory block and recovery BIOS in another area of the flash memory, or the "designated" recovery area of the flash memory. Finally, Christeson teaches updating the BIOS including the recovery portion. This is interpreted as designating the new initiation module as a recovery initiation module if the initiation is required for the recovery of the computing system (See Col. 2, lines 41-57).

22. Referring to claim 20, Christeson discloses have a block containing all the recovery BIOS, and all parts of the BIOS in the recovery block are part of the recovery BIOS, this is interpreted as designating the initiation module as a recovery initiation module if another recovery initiation module depends upon the new initiation module (See Col. 2, lines 52-57).

23. Referring to claim 21, Christeson teaches a recovery mode that executes the recovery BIOS, this is interpreted as executing only recovery initiation modules in an event of a recovery restart (See Col. 3, lines 16-25).

24. Referring to claim 22, Christeson discloses updating the BIOS, this interpreted as an updated recovery initiation module added to the BIOS firmware to replace an outdated recovery initiation module (See Col. 2, lines 15-20).

25. Referring to claim 23, Christeson teaches the verification of the flash memory area, this is interpreted as automatically evaluating at least one of the recovery initiation modules (See Col. 3, lines 26-35). Christeson discloses updating the BIOS including recovery BIOS, this interpreted as removing the recovery initiation module designation from all initiation modules designated as recovery initiation modules solely due to dependence thereon by the outdated recovery initiation module (See Col. 2, lines 15-20 and lines 52-57).

26. Referring to claim 24, Christeson teaches locking the recovery BIOS, this is interpreted as wherein the recovery initiation modules are rendered unalterable (See Col. 2, liens 52-54).

27. Referring to claim 25, Christeson discloses the recovery BIOS being located in non-volatile memory, this is interpreted as the initiation module reside in a fault-tolerant firmware block (See Col. 2, lines 15-20).

28. Referring to claim 26, Christeson teaches a block of code reference numbers "202", "203", "204" and "205" that add up to 64KB and contains the recovery BIOS, this is interpreted as the recovery initiation modules contained in a 64 kilobyte block of code (See Fig. 2).

29. Referring to claim 27, Christeson discloses the recovery being used because of a corruption from power failure or other reasons, this is interpreted as the recovery of the computing system is necessitated by an event selected from the group consisting of power failure, hardware failure, and security error (See Col. 3, lines 1-4).

Response to Arguments

30. Applicant's arguments filed 23 January 2005 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive. The Applicant argues that Christeson does not disclose adding a new initiation module to a BIOS firmware of a computing system having an extensible firmware architecture, the BIOS firmware having a plurality of initiation modules including recovery initiation modules for recovery of the computing system and non-recovery modules, automatically evaluating the initiation module; and designating the new initiation module as a recovery initiation module if the new initiation module is required for the recovery of the computing system. The Examiner respectfully disagrees.

Concerning the argument that Christeson does to teach adding a new initiation module because the BIOS firmware is a fixed region and not a extensible firmware

architecture, the Examiner respectfully disagrees. Christeson teaches using an additional BIOS region to extend the system BIOS memory area, this is interpreted as adding a new initiation module and the firmware being an extensible firmware architecture (See Col. 2, lines 50-51). The above rejections have been modified to include this clarification.

Concerning the argument that Christeson does not teach evaluating the initiation module. Christeson also teaches the verification of the flash memory area (See Col. 3, lines 26-35). The flash memory contains the BIOS thus verification of the flash memory is verification of the initiation modules of the BIOS (See Col. 4, lines 49-51). Evaluating a initiation module would include verifying the module. In response to applicant's argument that the references fail to show certain features of applicant's invention, it is noted that the features upon which applicant relies (i.e., Evaluation is to determine if the new initiation module is designated as recovery initiation module.) are not recited in the rejected claim(s). Although the claims are interpreted in light of the specification, limitations from the specification are not read into the claims. See *In re Van Geuns*, 988 F.2d 1181, 26 USPQ2d 1057 (Fed. Cir. 1993).

Concerning the argument that Christeson does not teach designating the new initiation module as recovery module, the Examiner respectfully disagrees. Finally Christeson also discloses storing BIOS instructions in the flash memory. The BIOS includes both a normal BIOS in one memory block and recovery BIOS in another area of the flash memory, or the "designated" recovery area of the flash memory. Finally, Christeson teaches updating the BIOS including the recovery portion. (See Col. 2, lines

41-57). By placing the update in the recovery BIOS as opposed to placing the update in the normal BIOS is "designated" the new initiation module as a recovery initiation module since it is required for recovery. Christeson also says that each of the separately programmable regions of flash memory may be modified or updated using the dynamic update mechanism (See Col. 2, lines 54-57).

Conclusion

31. **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Joseph D. Manoskey whose telephone number is (571) 272-3648. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon.-Fri. (7:30am to 4pm).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Robert Beausoliel can be reached on (571) 272-3645. The fax phone

number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

JDM

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